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October 20, 1993

VIA FACSIMILE

CONFIRMATION COPY

Mr. Edward Kubasiewicz
Office of the Group Director
Group Art Unit 1100
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231

Re: U.S. Patent Appln. No. 580,246

Dear Mr. Kubasiewicz:

With respect to the above-identified application, the applicants have been required to present claims in respect to U.S. Patent No. 5,114,477 to Mort, et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,234,474 to Whewell pursuant to a communication of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office dated September 22, 1993. The period in which to present such claims expires October 22, 1993.

On October 12, 1993 the applicants requested the intervention of the Commissioner on petition which petition has not been ruled upon at this time.

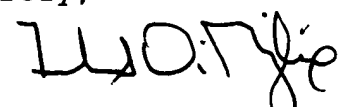
Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office stay or extend such response period (expiry October 22, 1993) for a reasonable time (10 days) after the Commissioner has rendered a decision on the petition as a final agency action (which includes a decision on any request for reconsideration to which applicants are entitled).

Under the circumstances, applicants need a written communication as soon as possible.

Applicants respectfully request that you kindly issue an order to effect such extension which we would appreciate by return facsimile at (516) 742-4366 at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


Frank S. DiGiglio

FSD:jc